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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**22 MAY 2018**

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – ICE, CBP Seize Nearly 79,000 Counterfeit Items in South Texas Valued at \$16 Million

(U) Laredo – Special agents with US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) on 17 May seized nearly 79,000 counterfeit items that included apparel and consumer electronics from luxury and sporting trademark designers like Adidas, Nike, Apple, Samsung, and Sony. HSI estimates the value of the seized items at more than \$16 million. The seizure represents HSI's second-largest counterfeit seizure in Laredo. On 17 May, HSI detained and seized 275 boxes being dropped off at a storage facility in Laredo.

SOURCE: 21 May 2018, [ICE Newsroom](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – Major Meth Trafficking Ring Busted in Arizona

(U) Phoenix – The Arizona Attorney General's Office says a major methamphetamine trafficking ring in the Phoenix metro area has been dismantled. Law enforcement officials reported seizing more than 30 pounds of meth and 18 illegal firearms when the defendants were arrested on 2 May. Authorities say five people also were indicted for their alleged involvement in the drug trafficking ring that operated in Tempe, Tolleson, Avondale and west Phoenix. The charges are based on a joint investigation by Tempe police and the Phoenix division of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration that began last October. The defendants allegedly earned more than \$100,000 a month in illegal drug sales.

SOURCE: 22 May 2018, [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#)

(U) Texas – Sheriff Does Not Believe Any Victims Killed in Crossfire with Gunman

(U) Santa Fe – Galveston County Sheriff Henry Trochesset said yesterday he does not believe any of the victims killed on 18 May at Santa Fe High School were shot by officers during the crossfire with the suspected shooter. The sheriff said officers exchanged gunfire with the suspected shooter and negotiated with him for a 25-minute-span before he surrendered. The suspect and officers did not exchanged gunfire that entire time, the sheriff said. The actions of the officers involved enabled other officers to arrive and evacuate teachers, administrators, and students.

SOURCE: 21 May 2018, [CNN](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Democratic Republic of Congo – Ebola Vaccine Drive Launches in DRC as Cases Rise to 49

(U) Bikoro – The Ebola case total has grown to 49 cases, reflecting 22 confirmed cases, 21 probable, and six suspected cases. In a development that global health officials say is a turning point in how the world fights Ebola, vaccinators yesterday began immunizing health workers in the Democratic Republic of

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Congo, the first stage of a ring vaccination strategy. Four more illnesses were reported, along with another healthcare worker death, and more countries signaled financial support to help with the international response to the outbreak. There are 7,540 doses of the vaccine slated for the DRC, enough for 50 rings of 150 people.

SOURCE: 21 May 2018, [CIDRAP](#)

(U) France – Hooded Men Open Fire with Kalashnikovs

(U) Marseille – Hooded gunmen opened fire with automatic rifles, kalchnikovs, in Marseille, in south France – with one person reportedly injured. The men opened fire on a group of young people not far from the cultural space known as 'La Busserine', according to local reporting. Three vehicles with the masked individuals arrived in the city's district of Busserine at 5 p.m. local time. There was then a shoot-out with police before the attackers fled the scene. One resident was hit in the head with a butt of a gun and slightly injured. Authorities have ruled out terrorism as a motive, reporting that the shooting probably was drug related.

SOURCE: 21 May 2018, [Express](#)

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